

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

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ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ARA-14 ISO-00 CAB-05 CIAE-00 COME-00
DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 L-03 SCS-06 SSO-00
INRE-00 /047 W

-----023951 052003Z /64

O R 051857Z JUL 78

FM AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7026

FAA WASHDC

INFO FAA MIAMI FLORIDA

FAA ATLANTA GEORGE

UNCLAS MANAGUA 3033

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, CDES, NU

SUBJECT: CRASH OF AMERICAN-REGISTERED PLANE IN NICARAGUA

REF: 10 FAM 521.7

1. BELOW IS INFORMATION CURRENTLY AVAILABLE ON SMALL PRIVATE PLANE WHICH CRASHED IN NICARAGUA LAST WEEK.

A) PLANE WAS A SINGLE-ENGINE PROPELLOR BELLANCA WITH U.S. REGISTRATION N8238R PAINTED ON SIDE. ALSO INDICATED WAS STATE OF OHIO AIRCRAFT REGISTRATION FOR 1973 (NO. 1812), 1974 (NO. 3923), AND 1975 (NO. 1194).

B) OWNER AND OPERATOR: LINCOLN ALBERT STEVENS, AMCIT FROM PIQUA, OHIO

C) ACCIDENT OCCURED ON JUNE 29, 1978 AT 13:21

D) INFORMATION AVAILABLE AT THIS TIME INDICATES THAT PLANE LANDED AT CORN ISLAND, NICARAGUA, ON JUNE 26 EN REOUTE FROM TOCUMAN, PANAMA, AND THEN PROCEEDED TO MANAGUA ON JUNE 27TH. ON JUNE 29TH, THE PLANE WAS EN ROUTE TO COCHINIL, MEXICO, WHEN IT CRASHED. LOG BOOK FOR PLANE HAS NOT BEEN LOCATED.

E) CRASH OCCURRED IN AN OPEN FIELD A FEW HUNDRED YARDS FROM LAS MERCEDES INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, MANAGUA, NICARAGUA; LATITUDE AND UNCLASSIFIED

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LONGITUDE, 12 28N, 86 07W, PLANE CRASHED ALMOST IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING TAKEOFF IN AN OPEN FIELD A FEW HUNDRED YARDS FROM THE END OF THE RUNWAY.

F) FOUR PERSONS WERE ABOARD PLANE. LINCOLN STEVENS AND HIS WIFE SELMA WERE KILLED. THEIR CHILDREN SHERRIE AND LINCOLN JR. WERE BOTH SERIOUSLY INJURED.

G) AIRPORT SOURCES HAVE OPINED THAT THE PROPELLOR OF THE PLANE HIT

THE RUNWAY PRECEDINT TAKE-OFF.

AFTER TAKE-OFF PLANE TURNED AS IF TO RETURN TO THE AIRPORT AND
CRASHED. AIRCRAFT COMPLETELY DESTROYED.

H) NICARAGUAN MINISTRY OF DEFENSE HAS APPOINTED A COMMISSION TO IN-
VESTIGATE THE CRASH. GON IS EAGER FOR FAA ASSISTANCE IN INVESTI-
GATION AND WILL SUBMIT FORMAL WRITTEN REQUEST TO EMBASSY.

I) COPY OF OFFICIAL INVESTIGATION REPORT WILL BE FORWARDED TO FAA
WHEN COMPLETED ALONG WITH STATEMENT AS TO RESTRAINTS ON PUBLI-
CITY, IF ANY.

2. FYI: EMBOFF TALKED WITH MIAMI FAA INSPECTOR LOUIS KALUCH BY TELE-
PHONE ON JULY 5. HE WAS GIVEN INFORMATION ON THE CRASH AND INDICATED
THAT HE WOULD RELAY SUCH TO MR. LEE JETT OF FAA WASHINGTON AND ALSO
ADVISE HIM THAT NICARAGUAN AUTHORITIES WOULD LIKE FAA ASSISTANCE IN
THE CRASH INVESTIGATION.

3. EMBASSY REMAINS WILLING TO AID IN EXPEDITION OF FAA ASSISTANCE TO
GON IN THIS CASE.

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
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Draft Date: 05 jul 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
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